

No.5 Saints, No.9 Lions knocked out

Written by Metro Sports Report

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The Xavier Saints and Linn-Mar Lions were both upset in the semifinals of the regional softball tournament Saturday night at home.

The Saints, ranked No.5 in Class 4A, were blanked by Clear Creek-Amana, 2-0, on a three-hit shutout by Lexi Kinnaird.

The Lions, ranked No.9 in Class 5A, were upended by Dubuque Senior, 2-0, on a three-hit shutout by A.D. Medinger.

Cedar Rapids Prairie's game in the Class 5A playoffs against No.7 Pleasant Valley was suspended by rain in the second inning with the Hawks leading, 2-0. It will be resumed Monday at 6 p.m. at Prairie.

This is the second straight year that Xavier entered the postseason tournament with a top-10 ranking and a Mississippi Valley Conference division title in its pocket, and the second straight year the Saints went one-and-done.

The Saints were bumped off by No.15 North Scott last year. And just like last year, the Saints are scheduled to host the regional finals Tuesday night but will not be playing.

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Xavier has compiled a 62-18 record the past two seasons, but both years ended in frustration.

Molly Villhauer went 3-for-3 with a double, home run and two RBIs for Clear Creek-Amana (21-17). Clear Creek-Amana will face Washington (Iowa) in the Class 4A regional finals Tuesday at Xavier.

The Linn-Mar Lions swept a Mississippi Valley Conference doubleheader from Dubuque Senior during the regular season, 7-4 and 13-5, but the Rams got revenge in the tournament.

Medinger hit a solo home run in addition to pitching the three-hit shutout with seven strikeouts. Sydney Tigges went 3-for-3 for Dubuque Senior (19-22).

Clear Creek-Amana 100 001 0 - 2

Xavier 000 000 0 - 0

Dubuque Senior 100 010 0 - 2

Linn-Mar 000 000 0 - 0